

the finest diplomats that both of us have come to know, Mr. Luca Ferrari, the Minister Counselor for Public and Legislative Affairs at the Embassy of the Republic of Italy. Minister Ferrari, who has been at the Italian Embassy here in Washington since October 8, 2005, is also the Official Spokesman at the Embassy as well. It has been recently announced that Minister Ferrari will leave Washington later this summer to become the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Italy in Madrid, Spain.

Minister Ferrari, whose father was a career diplomat, was born in Rome and lived all over the world while growing up. As a result, he can speak five languages fluently. He received a degree in political science from the University of Rome in 1984. He joined the Italian Diplomatic Service in 1986 and served in a number of positions in Rome, including Executive Assistant to the Foreign Minister and Special Assistant in the Office of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 1991, he was sent to Moscow where, as First Secretary, he held the position of Head of the Ambassador's Secretariat and Chief of the Consular Section until 1995. Then he began his first assignment in Washington, where he was Counselor and Chief of Staff of the Ambassador of Italy to the United States until 1999. After returning to Rome, he served as the Director for Middle Eastern Affairs of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs until his return to Washington in 2005.

Given the enormous amount of diplomatic and consular activity between the United States and our critical NATO ally Italy over the years, Washington, D.C. is one of the most challenging posts for Italian diplomats. I think that you will agree with my belief that Minister Ferrari has performed superbly both as a diplomat and as a friend to both of us. Whether it has been his tireless efforts on your historic trip to Italy as the highest ranking Italian-American official, his facilitation of the recent visit of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi to Washington, and the numerous visits of other high-level officials in recent years, his work to provide relief in the wake of the devastating earthquake in Abruzzo, his preparations for the upcoming July G-8 Summit in L'Aquila, or the energy he brought to the numerous other projects to which he was assigned; I think that you will agree with me that Luca has set an example of what it means to be a model diplomat. Many of our colleagues are aware of the historic role that the model of Italian diplomacy has played in the creation of the current worldwide diplomatic system and international law. We can easily see how Luca fits into the fine tradition of envoys that Italy has sent to other nations down through the ages.

On a personal level, Madam Speaker, Luca has been a true friend to both of us, as well as to your husband Paul and to my wife Leslie. As you have on so many occasions, Luca travelled to Hartford to participate in my annual charity Bocce Tournament, which Leslie and I host at our home to raise money for the St. Patrick/St. Anthony Church in Hartford and the East Hartford Interfaith Ministries. Although he has yet to join you in the elite group of Italian Celebrity Night trophy winners, I am sure that, with a little more practice, he will be awarded that honor at some future tournament.

Madam Speaker, I would like to conclude by urging all of our colleagues to join us in saluting Minister Luca Ferrari for all he has done

to further relations between our two countries and to wish him, his wife Mariachiara Pastore Ferrari, and their 13 year-old son Alessandro Ferrari all the best as they begin their new duties in Spain.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the new House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information.

Bill Number: H.R. 2647, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010

Project Name: Readiness Center Addition/Alteration, Iowa Falls, Iowa.

Amount: \$2,000,000

Account: Army National Guard

Recipient: Construction and Facilities Management Office (CFMO), Iowa Army National Guard

Recipient's Street Address: Camp Dodge, Building B-61, 7105 NW 70th Avenue Johnston, Iowa 50131

Description: The purpose of this project is to renovate and provide an addition to the Iowa Falls National Guard Readiness Center (armory). The project is a complete renovation of the existing facility to modernize administrative and training areas to meet new Department of Defense force structure requirements. The addition to the building will address deficiencies in supply space, vault space, classroom space, the electrical system, HVAC system, Anti-terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP) measures, information technology/telecom systems and military parking space.

Bill Number: Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Garner Wastewater Treatment Plant/Trunk Sewer Reconstruction

Amount: \$500,000

Account: STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Recipient: City of Garner

Recipient's Street Address: 135 West 5th Street Garner, IA 50438

Description: Construct improvements, including upgrading current aerated lagoon system to sequencing batch reactor mechanical plant and reconstruction of approximately 3000 feet of undersized trunk sewer line. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has mandated construction of wastewater plants to meet ammonia nitrogen standards. Trunk sewer carrying 70% of the community's flow needs to be upgraded from 12" diameter pipe to 24". The City's aerated lagoon system is no longer capable of meeting standards for ammonia nitrogen, and the DNR has mandated construction of a new plant. The project is extremely significant locally. Without securing outside funding, sewer rates will be triple what they were in 2005 for at least the next 20-25 years. This is a major expense for families in economic times that have hit Hancock County's employment base harder than the national average.

Bill Number: H.R. 2849, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Iowa Central Law Enforcement Training Center

Amount: \$500,000

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Recipient: Iowa Central Community College

Recipient's Street Address: One Triton Circle Fort. Dodge, IA 50501

Description: The Center provides an economical and efficient platform for multi-discipline training programs for first-responder law enforcement personnel from across the state of Iowa. Thus far about 26,000 personnel have been trained.

Bill Number: H.R. 2849, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Internet Scale Event and Attack Generation Environment

Amount: \$400,000

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Recipient: Iowa State University

Recipient's Street Address: 1750 Beardshear Hall Ames, IA 50011

Description: The funding will be used to continue the program, which simulates technology cyber attacks on a virtual internet for the purpose of researching cyber defense mechanisms and analyzing attacks.

Bill Number: H.R. 2849, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Iowa State Forensic Testing Lab

Amount: \$1,300,000

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Recipient: Iowa State University

Recipient's Street Address: 1750 Beardshear Hall Ames, IA 50011

Description: The funding will continue this project, which involves cutting edge developments in forensic analysis and evaluation techniques, and the conduct of training and lab management programs for state and local (and some federal) entities.

Bill Number: H.R. 2849, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Law Enforcement Visual Intelligence Tool

Amount: \$200,000

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Recipient: Pocahontas County Iowa Sheriff

Recipient's Street Address: 99 Court Square Pocahontas, IA 50574

Description: The purpose of the technology is to aid local sheriffs in North Central Iowa by providing a special aerial imagery and geospatial visual intelligence tool that can help law enforcement personnel view and analyze an enforcement target location, building, intersection, etc.

#### HONORING THE SAMARITAN INN

### HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor The Samaritan Inn, which took its first resident in 1989. Since it began, the Inn has served over 400 men through outreach or residential housing.

The Samaritan Inn is transitional residential living with supportive services for up to 12

homeless adult men at a time. Men may stay for up to 24 months. The Inn provides for group living in a safe, supportive, home-like environment. The project has as its primary mission to promote residential stability, increase skill level, and increase income which leads to greater self determination, thereby enabling the men serviced to move to permanent housing.

Specifically, the Inn: (1) provides safe, decent temporary shelter for homeless men in transition from homelessness to independent living in permanent housing; (2) provides case management services that emphasize healthy relationships, financial responsibility, education and training, household management, work ethics, mental and physical health, and responsible personal behavior; (3) provides opportunity to recover self-esteem, build confidence, restore dignity; and (4) provides life skill training and job development skills required to support and sustain independent living in permanent housing.

For a number of years, Samaritan Inn was the only HUD supported transitional housing available for men in the Kanawha Valley. Today it is one of only two HUD supported transitional facilities for men in this area.

The Inn is a stately Victorian home-like facility that is conveniently located in downtown Charleston and is close to bus lines and businesses.

Upon entry, each resident works with staff to establish individualized goals designed to overcome the obstacles to permanent, independent living. Each resident is required to work, pay up to 30% of his income in rent, maintain his own living area, share the cooking and cleaning responsibilities, participate in a life skills curriculum, substance abuse education, and participate in community volunteer activities.

The Samaritan Inn provides a safe environment to recover from homelessness, offers services that permanently change the lives of men who have been homeless, and empowers men to be productive independent citizens of our community.

#### BIASED LA TIMES STORY MISSES POINT

#### HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam speaker, I have more bad news for Americans . . . yet another example of biased reporting.

This one comes from the Los Angeles Times.

The paper ran a story about a company that fired 200 workers after an IRS audit found "hundreds of 'invalid or fraudulent' Social Security numbers."

An unbiased story would have focused on how devastating ID theft is to families. It might have discussed the range of problems they face—faulty arrest records and tax liabilities among them.

The article also might have mentioned that those 200 jobs are now open for jobless U.S. citizens and legal immigrants. And that typically after an action like this, wages for American workers are higher.

But the Times story did neither of these things.

Instead, the story followed the talking points set forth by amnesty advocates and the Times' own editorial board.

Readers deserve better. They deserve a balanced view.

And that Los Angeles company—it should be praised for its actions to comply with the law instead of ignoring it.

#### ACKNOWLEDGING THE 37TH ANNIVERSARY OF TITLE IX

#### HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 37th Anniversary of Title IX. Title IX is the federal law that prohibits gender discrimination in federally funded educational programs. Specifically this legislation was designed to create equality among the sexes in education, but this mandate has had an even greater impact on women's athletics. As a result, it has provided opportunities which were not previously available. While many gender barriers have been broken since Title IX's implementation, there are still many obstacles that young women face today.

Many of Title IX's accomplishments stem from successes with collegiate level athletics. Unfortunately, elementary and high school girls are still not completely protected by the requirements of this legislation. Today we know that those young women are not receiving nearly as much funding as their male counterparts in sport related activities. Although there is still work to be done in regards to Title IX, a lot has changed since its inception. Before the law passed in 1972, women consisted of just seven percent of all high school sports participants. Today over forty percent of high school athletes are females. In terms of collegiate academia and sports participation, well over half of all undergraduate college students are women. Women also outnumber men in graduate school and law school enrollment.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to acknowledge the 37th Anniversary of Title IX and all it has done to provide our young women with so many excellent opportunities. I will work diligently with my colleagues to protect the rights of women and ensure that gender discrimination becomes a remnant of the past.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent Friday, June 19, on very urgent business. Had I been present for the ten votes that day, I would have voted the following way:

I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 559, rollcall vote No. 409;

I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 559, rollcall vote No. 410;

I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 560, rollcall vote No. 411;

I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 2918, rollcall vote No. 412;

I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 2918, rollcall vote No. 413;

I would have voted "present" on rollcall vote No. 414;

I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 520, rollcall vote No. 415;

I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 520, rollcall vote No. 416;

I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 520, rollcall vote No. 417;

I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 520, rollcall vote No. 418.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. ROB BISHOP

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure information regarding project funding I had requested and which was included within the legislation H.R. 2647, as reported. To the best of my knowledge, funding for this project: (1) is not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds. I further certify that neither my spouse, nor I, have any personal financial interests in this request.

Project Title: Senior Center, Brigham City, Utah

Amount: \$250,000

Requesting Member: ROB BISHOP (UT)

Bill Number: H.R. 2892

Account: FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation

Address of Requesting Entity: Brigham City Corporation

Location: Brigham City Corp., 20 North Main, Brigham City, UT 84302

Matching Funds: \$125,000

Detailed Spending Plan: FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation project grants require a minimum local cost share of 25% or the total project cost. This project is estimated as costing \$500,000. Under regular FEMA guidelines, Brigham City would be required to expend \$125,000 as the local cost-share. Request for federal share was for \$375,000. However, the committee decided only to fund \$250,000 of the regular federal portion, which may require up to an additional \$100,000 local cost share for a total of \$225,000 local cost share to fully complete the project. Funds will be used to perform seismic upgrades to existing senior center facilities, such as strengthening the roof system, and the wall structures. Minor bracing will be used on existing walls, doors and windows.

Description and Justification of Funding: Project would strengthen an existing Senior Citizen Center facility in Brigham City, Utah, against future seismic threats. Brigham City is located along the Wasatch Fault and according to the U.S. Geological Survey, there is a 25% chance of a 6.5 to 7.0 earthquake along this fault within the next 100 years. This Senior Center services thousands of local residents as well as senior populations in outlying areas in a large geographical region. Located